## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-10 NSAE-00 PA-02 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 NSC-05 /063 W

-----240111Z 109267 /67

R 231717Z DEC 76

FM USMISSION NATO

TO USIA WASHDC

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

SECSTATE WASHDC 934

AMEMBASSY BONN

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**UNCLAS USNATO 7012** 

USIAC

USIS FOR IMV AND IEU

EO11652 N/A

SUBJECT VTR WITH NATO ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL WALTER LABERGE

REF USIS IEU PAO LETTER NO. 31

- 1. NATO ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL FOR DEFENSE SUPPORT WALTER LABERGE WILL BE IN US IN FEBRUARY TO PARTICIPATE IN CONFERENCE AT GEORGETOWN U. TENTATIVE DATE IS FEBRUARY 14.
- 2. LABERGE, WHO WAS ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF AIR FORCE FOR R&D BEFORE BEING SECONDED BY DOD TO PRESENT POST A YEAR AGO, IS EXTREMELY KNOWLEDGEABLE HIGH-LEVEL EXPERT ON STANDARDIZATION AND AWACS, BOTH OF WHICH ARE AT TOP OF PRESENT USNATO PRIORITY LIST.

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- 3. LABERGE HAS AGREED IN PRINCIPLE TO OUR SUGGESTION THAT WHILE IN US HE PARTICIPATE IN AGENCY VTR ON BOTH SUBJECT.
- 4. WE BELIEVE AUTHORITATIVE DISCUSSION OF THESE SUBJECTS COULD BE HIGHLY USEFUL PROGRAM TOOL AT USIS POSTS IN ALL NATO COUNTRIES AND PERHAPS BEYOND FOR USE WITH FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE WRITERS AS WELL AS WITH POLITICAL AND ACADEMIC AUDIENCES. IN FACT, OPPORTUNITY

OFFERED BY LABERGE COULD HELP FULFILL REQUEST FOR USEFUL GUIDANCE AND/OR PROGRAM MATERIAL ON BOTH SUBJECTS WHICH USIS ROME AND USIS BONN HAVE MADE TO US IN RECENT DAYS. LABERGE VTR ON SUCH TIMELY AND, CERTAINLY IN CASE OF STANDARDIZATION, DURABLE SUBJECTS ALSO DIRECTLY IN LINE WITH THRUST OF NEW IMV VTR SERIES DESCRIBED IN PAO LETTER NO. 31.

- 5. POST HAS IN MIND INTERVIEW FORMAT WITH PERHAPS TWO WASHINGTON BASED EUROPEAN JOURNALISTS, PREFERABLY FROM UK AND FRG, WHO HAVE GOOD KNOWLEDGE OF MILITARY/SECURITY AND NATO ISSUES.
- 6. LABERGE RETURNS FROM HOLIDAY EARLY JANUARY AT WHICH TIME WE WE WILL PURSUE DETAILS. CLAUSSEN

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## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 30 AUG 1999 Channel Indicators: n/a

**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: n/a Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 23 DEC 1976 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: n/a

Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976NATO0

Document Number: 1976NATO07012
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: n/a Film Number: n/a From: NATO

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761290/baaabajo.tel Line Count: 72 Locator: TEXT ON-LINE Office: ACTION EUR

Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators: Previous Classification: n/a Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: n/a Review Authority: vogelfj

Review Content Flags: Review Date: 15 JUN 2004

**Review Event:** 

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15 JUN 2004 by chengls>; APPROVED <14 DEC 2004 by vogelfj>

**Review Markings:** 

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MÁY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:** Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE Subject: n/a TAGS: n/a To: USIA INFO SECDEF MULTIPLE Type: TE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006